ABC NEWS - WORLD NEW TONIGHT (9-11-2002)

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From Wendsay, September 11th, 2002 ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT with Peter Jennings.

- Coverage runs from 6:30 P.M E.T - 6:58 P.M E.T

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maria rose abbad andrew anthony abadi september 11th 2002. lawrence christopher abel the murder of innocence cannot be explained only endured and though they died in tragedy they did not die in vain [Music] todd beamer one year later the nation remembers from abc news this is world news tonight with peter jennings good evening everyone at abc we have spent the day marking the anniversary of the september attacks and of course so have so many people in the country we are now in the studio for which we'll be broadcasting our special coverage tonight this is as you can see a dramatic adaptation of the new york skyline and a representation of the lost towers this was of course a day of commemoration there were important events today at ground zero in downtown new york where the trade towers themselves once stood and from which they're sorely missed at the newly repaired pentagon outside of washington and at that field in the beautiful countryside of pennsylvania at shanksville where united flight 93 went down in the course of this broadcast this edition of world news tonight we will visit all of those places we'll also have the results tonight of an extraordinary test of international and national security there are many ways to see this day one is clearly through the perspective of the president because he was at each location and here's our white house correspondent terry moran terry

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correspondent terry moran terry peter for mr bush this was a day when the duties of his office were ceremonial emotional and solemn down the long long ramp leading to ground zero winds whipping up the dust in the pit the president and the first lady arrived to pay tribute to the thousands who died here they laid a wreath said a prayer and then surrounded by the families of the lost they offered all the comfort they could a hug here a firm handshake a quiet word as evening came on there seemed to be time for every family the muted ceremony in lower manhattan camped a day of remembrance for the president it began at 8 46 the moment a year ago when the first plane hit from there the commander-in-chief returned to the pentagon astonishingly rebuilt in just a year the president and the secretary of defense watched as a worn and tattered flag was unfurled over the building just as it had been one year ago over the smoldering rubble in a sense we meet on a battlefield the terrorists wanted september 11th to be a day when hatred reigned instead it was a day when we witnessed love beyond measure for mr bush the moment offered an opportunity to reaffirm a solemn vow to the comrades of those who died here at every turn of this war we will always remember how it began and who fell first the thousands who went to work bordered a plane or reported to their post from the marshall pump and high ceremony of the pentagon the president traveled to the tranquility of the fields of shanksville pennsylvania [Music] there he paid tribute to the passengers of flight 93

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of flight 93 the families of the lost gathered around the president here he lingered with them signing autographs posing for pictures for an hour and as he left a child ran to him receiving a presidential hug frightening for a moment a day filled with tears it turned out his brother wanted one too [Applause] tonight the president will address the nation from ellis island with the statue of liberty over his shoulder he will talk briefly aides say about what he will call the long year that has passed a year of coming to terms with what he says is the difficult knowledge that the nation has enemies and that we are not invulnerable to their attacks peter thank you terry tamran our white house correspondent so there's the day a scene from the president's perspective and he made a huge difference at every place that he went each of those places was in its own way so quite extraordinarily different here's abc's bob brown from each of new york city's five boroughs early this morning bagpipers began their processions toward ground zero and along the way new yorkers joined them on the streets in these hours before sunrise at 8 46 when the first plane struck the world trade center a year ago there was a moment of silence observed also by the president on the south lawn of the white house they were our neighbors our husbands our children our sisters our brothers and our wives new york's former mayor rudolph giuliani began a reading of the names of all the victims joined later by other readers joseph angelini jr joseph angelini senior on a ramp called hall road because of the debris that was carried out of this pit mourners joined a procession to a circle of honor where they placed roses in memory of the victims at 903 another pause

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at 903 another pause marking the moment when united airlines flight 175 struck the south tower of the trade [Music] center my name is brittany clark brittany clark is an 11 year old whose father died on the 96th floor of the trade center she wrote a poem that made her feel she said as if her father was still speaking to her i am the soft stars that shine at night do not think of me as gone i am with you still in each new dawn john francis swain christine m sweerson brian david sweeney after two and a half hours they were still reading the names 2801 in all they were so much more than just names [Music] at the pentagon where 189 people died cabinet members and congressional and military leaders gathered on an enormous stage and within a crowd of several thousand remarking also on how quickly the shattered building has been rebuilt [Applause] in shanksville pennsylvania a bell tolled 40 times for those who died aboard united airlines flight 93 which crashed in a field after passengers struggled with the terrorists who had taken over the aircraft the ceremony was attended by more than 500 relatives and friends of the victims we remember courageous americans pennsylvania governor mark schweiker said it was here that freedom took its first stand and the president visited the site later to speak privately with families thousands of people have come here during the last year to create their own

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during the last year to create their own memorial built of dolls and flowers flags and photographs like americans everywhere today they have improvised their ways of dealing with grief and preserving images and memories to overcome the images that changed everyone a year ago bob brown abc news new york each of these ceremonies was in its own way very unique and we had a reporter at each location to ground zero now for a moment to get some impressions about the day from don daler don peter i think most of us were expecting this to be a somber and reflective ceremony what we were not expecting was it to be quite as emotional as it was almost mournful at times as the family members made their way down the ramp to lay flowers in the circle many times openly weeping still obviously grieving a year later what had happened and that sea that that river of family members that made their way down the ramp i think was stunning and for most of us watching that was a very strong visual reminder of the enormity of the loss that occurred here and the thousands of families who were forever impacted by those events last year precisely thanks very much don the circle of honor in fact became almost as spontaneous none of the officials thought people would go inside the circle of honor and they did time and time again by contrast at the pentagon where abc's john mccarthy has spent all of the day john i think a lot of us thought that it was very upbeat uplifting in a way that new york was not definitely more upbeat than there peter there was no reading of the names the music and the speeches all were trying to take this military family and move them ahead there was definitely an effort

on that at the end of the ceremony they'd handed out ten thousand small american flags to this huge audience and it had a tremendous impact it was almost like a celebration if that is possible there was a case of nerves here today though peter there was a lot of security

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though peter there was a lot of security around here and they repeatedly made an announcement to this audience to make them aware that there was going to be jets flying over in honor of the dead at the end of the ceremony almost as though they didn't want any of the people to be surprised when those jets came in and to have them misinterpreted as something other than what it was thank you john i would agree with you it was as you said in some ways a celebration a celebration of the country's spirit and determination very evident at the pentagon and then there was shanksville pennsylvania tiny little place 245 people been left sort of off the map in many ways in the course of the last year abc's dan harris is there and then i think you were surprised today how many people showed up and their interaction with the president there were 500 plus family members here today and here are some of the words they use to describe what they saw today moving beautiful a great comfort they called it they were gratified they say by the turnout today 5 000 people who came on a windy chilly day gratified as well by the portrayal of their relatives by the speakers as citizen soldiers who fought back and therefore saved lives and gratified perhaps most of all by all the personal attention that they got from president bush even people who do not support bush's policies say they were gratified by the attention and the seemingly genuine compassion he showed here today peter thanks dan very much dan harris in shanksville there were naturally today on the first anniversary recollections of the first anniversary of pearl harbor a year after the attack in pearl harbor there were a million u.s men in uniform and on the first anniversary the first lady mrs roosevelt wrote there would be very little point in celebrating this as a holiday but there is every reason to keep it in mind so that we are never unprepared again to defend the things in which we believe in other words learning from the past without being held hostage to it today americans have commemorated this day and these ideas in so many different ways to bring in the rest of the country

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to bring in the rest of the country abc's dean reynolds no matter where you were in this country today or what you were doing you just had to pause and think good morning americans gathered in large crowds are small but all for the same reason a great loss a lot of people lost families the repercussions are still here sorry please join me for the loss that we all incurred on this day the silence lasted for what seemed like an especially long minute and was observed virtually everywhere from shopping malls to ballparks it was a silence pierced by the ringing of bells or the blasts of cannon fire in places like montgomery alabama or rifle reports in springfield illinois this was a good way for me to feel as close as possible to the event fighter jets crisscrossed the skies in aerial tribute from idaho to lake michigan and beyond they released balloons in columbia missouri bald eagles in st louis and doves of peace in california three thousand crosses were positioned in a field in central washington three thousand carnations were dropped in a pool in houston and firefighters boots were placed near candles in cincinnati in a chicago suburb muslim school children formed a human chain in sympathy and a mosque in los angeles called this a special day to pray all of this went on under the watchful eye of the country's security forces doing what they do every day and the truth is that except for a brief commemorative pause in the morning many people were determined to keep to their daily routines too to them that was the perfect gesture remember the terrorists are towers and they think that we are going to be afraid [Music]

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[Music] so what we need to do is facing and we are going to win for a time today the people of this country broke stride but then got back to the business of being americans dean reynolds abc news chicago and yes of course as dean lose there was some anxiety in the country today we all know that the government put the country in a higher state of alert yesterday for the first time since march and to bring us that part of today

here's abc's martha raddatz early this morning the coast guard stopped a foreign freighter bound for a new jersey port after inspectors detected low level radiation aboard the ship further tests are being conducted in baltimore eight middle eastern men were taken into custody sources tell abc news that police serving a warrant discovered fake ids photos of times square washington's union station and website information on flight schools in the air today two scares over houston an air marshal thought he spotted a passenger with a folding knife it was a folding comb but f-16 fighters were called to escort the flight back to the airport an airliner leaving memphis was diverted to fort smith arkansas after four men described as middle eastern looking raised suspicions the fbi first thought a hijacking might be in progress but it was another false alarm authorities say as long as the nation remains on high alert no one is taking any chances with security martha raddatz abc news washington the terrorists who attacked the country a year ago started everybody going by breaching airport security and since then security's become something of an obsession for millions of americans abc's lisa stark who covers aviation for us is at denver international airport tonight lisa this was a day in which quite frankly there weren't that many flights and there weren't that many travelers absolutely peter u.s airlines cut

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absolutely peter u.s airlines cut 3 200 flights today and at the airports throughout the country uh travelers was down we're down anywhere from 30 to 70 percent in denver for example this morning during the morning rush what was typically the morning rush there were simply no lines no one at curbside check-in so things were going smoothly at the airports from that standpoint people today were flying for a number of reasons some said they had to fly for family reasons or business but a number said they were flying to simply be defiant one man said we cannot be afraid of terrorists and from an airline everybody expect back to business as normal tomorrow in the aviation business to be honest with you they expect it to be slow for the next few days it may not get back to normal until next week okay thanks very much betsy stark lisa stark now we want to turn to betsy stark betsy stark covers the economy for us and of course wall street was deeply affected a year ago and it took a while today for wall street to get going again but abc's betsy stark covers that for us betsy well peter uh many of the victims of 9 11 worked for financial companies that were located in the world trade center so this was a day of grief and remembrance on wall street uh stock trading was beside the point as one analyst put it to me today our bodies were there but our minds were elsewhere the world's biggest stock market got underway two and a half hours late today and the first order of business was a moment of silence led by a balcony full of dignitaries minutes later a plaque commemorating those who perished was unveiled outside the new york stock exchange the top of the plaque ladies and gentlemen says it all let freedom ring god bless you god bless america today was first and foremost a day of mourning on wall street no industry suffered greater casualties than financial services which makes its home around ground zero

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which makes its home around ground zero the investment bank sandler o'neill lost 40 percent of its workers today it honored those 66 employees in this full-page ad they were one of several banks and brokerages to memorialize their dead bond trading giant counter fitzgerald held a private service in central park for the 658 employees it lost last september 11th jennifer gardner's husband was one of them so it's like moving through a fog today it's quite difficult i didn't think it was going to be this hard you know i woke up this morning and as soon as 8 46 hit it was like a ton of bricks well as expected trading was light today the dow lost 21 points the nasdaq fell about five points but the market pundits had little to say about it peter as one observed this was not a day for economic analysis thanks very much betsy betsy stark and lisa stark in order as we heard a few moments ago a freighter registered to a company in hong kong was turned away from the port of elizabeth new jersey this morning coast guard inspectors detected a low level of radiation on board this resonated with us tremendously because abc's brian ross has just spent a long very intense period of time investigating good evening brian whether u.s officials can keep this kind of material out of the country and you discovered they cannot that's right peter we began our investigation by going through court files and seized documents to see how al qaeda terrorists had planned to smuggle dangerous radioactive material into the country then

we followed the same path using a legal harmless version of the material to see if authorities could detect it or stop it our secret journey started by rail in austria on the 4th of july on a rack in the cabin this suitcase holding 15 pounds of depleted uranium which we had picked up at a scientific institute in salzburg

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institute in salzburg the material inside a steel pipe lined with lead is not the dangerous highly enriched uranium used in nuclear weapons but scientific experts say it would give much the same signature to detection scanners now in use a perfect mock-up it replicates everything but the capability to explode but across five european countries there was no inspection of the suitcase all the way to turkey to istanbul considered the crossroads of the world's nuclear black market this is what they're looking for or should be looking for and this is what they absolutely have to stop and then with surprising ease we were able to pack our material inside an ornamental chest crate it and then place it in a shipping container alongside a cargo of vases and turkish horse carts if it were a real weapon you know that you had managed to get out of the soviet inventory some would fit in this container at two in the morning on july 29th the container arrived at the port of new york on board the cargo ship singapore bay at this point not a single government official had checked to see what was inside the container a weapon could be armed and ready to fire the ship could be the delivery device the ship i think is one of the most dangerous delivery devices our ship tied up at the staten island dock in new york where u.s customs says it has a state-of-the-art system in place to detect even a small low-level amount of radioactive material like ours if we can't tell exactly what's in this in that container by those screenings we're going to get into the container and find out for ourselves yet our container left the pork without ever being opened by u.s customs it had been targeted for special screening because it came from istanbul but still it sailed right through and a few days after its arrival in the united states from a place known for its connection to the nuclear black market

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the nuclear black market the container was on the back of a truck headed for new york city we ran it for radiation detection and we also did a large scale x-ray u s customs commissioner robert bonner said his inspectors correctly singled out the container and would have found anything truly dangerous nothing appeared that would indicate that there was a potential for a nuclear device to be in the container a large piece of metal in the shipment of turkish horse carts didn't stand out uh look uh i'm not going to get into it we have we have we have the we have the x-ray pictures uh we look at those pictures yes can we see them i i don't think i'm going to share them with you so we took our own x-ray pictures with a machine much less sophisticated than that of us customs and this is what our suitcase looked like like a pipe bomb was inside if you didn't detect this you wouldn't have detected the real thing he missed it and he's covering up as a final step the container was trucked to a warehouse at the foot of the brooklyn bridge across the river from lower manhattan if that were a weapon and you blew it up you would have very very substantial consequences yeah of course the material we moved was not dangerous and entirely legal to transport and even the customs commissioner acknowledges our project helps to point out it's just far too easy peter to put something on a ship and send it to this country chilling project many thanks brian ross um there were and we just don't have a lot of time for them this evening commemorations all over the world today people in so many countries wanted to participate in this day with the united states but we have a couple of glimpses here is a beach in australia where hundreds of people commemorated this day yes i thought we'd get a glimpse of it by making a flag out of people who were there there were two powerful beams of light uh projected into the sky in paris reminiscent of what they did here at

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reminiscent of what they did here at ground zero uh some months ago the symbol of the trade towers and in venice in italy the city's gondoliers observed a moment of silence and on so many of the gondolas today you could see large billowing in most cases american flags in a minute we are going to begin our abc news special coverage for the evening of 9 11. we've been on since early morning as you know we want to end

this particular portion of the day with something called the rolling requiem last year some members of the seattle symphony began to explore an idea what if on this september 11th singers in many parts of the world could join together in singing an extraordinary piece of music which is mozart's requiem which he wrote in memory of a nobleman's wife to be performed on during her funeral he died while composing it it would start this requiem at the bottom of the world with the first dawn of the day people would sing it in every time zone for 24 hours the response to the idea was absolutely huge it began in auckland new zealand um so [Applause]

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[Applause] um [Applause] foreign [Music] yes [Music] yes is [Music] [Applause]

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crazy [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] foreign

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